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State Department review completed

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation
(Report #52 - As of 6:00 AM EDT)

1. Peking has extended its deadline under the ultimatum of 16 September "to before midnight of 22 September," Wednesday (1200 EDT). The announcement was made in a note handed to the Indian Charge d'Affaires in Peking on the 19th, according to the official New China news agency. The note, a reply to the Indian note of 17 September, goes on to charge the Indians with attempting to "play for time, evade China's just demand, and refuse to dismantle" the structures in Natula Pass. The demand for their dismantling is repeated, along with other previously aired demands. Although reference was made to the Indians' acceptance of earlier Chinese offers of a joint investigation of Chinese charges, the Indian offer is not accepted. The Chinese note states that the extension has been granted to permit the Indians time to comply with Peking's demand.

2. Fighting yesterday was apparently relatively light with little progress by either side. Pakistan is claiming only to have gained more ground in the Sialkot area, to have repelled three limited attacks near Lahore, and to have continued to press the enemy at Khem Keran. Pakistani damage claims were very low compared to those during heavy fighting early in the week--two Indian aircraft and seven tanks.

3. The Indians claim that Pakistani troops fired across the border into Tripura province--east of East Pakistan--on 17 September. Prime Minister Shastri has warned that if Pakistan continues to try to escalate the conflict by staging air raids from East Pakistan, India might have to take countermeasures, according to the Times of India.

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4. The Malaysian Ambassador to the UN states that any new Security Council resolution should acknowledge India's acceptance of the cease fire, and call upon Pakistan to cease hostilities. He also wants the resolution to deplore the Pakistani infiltration into Kashmir which he believes set off the current series of incidents. Malaysia has been anti-Pakistani in the current dispute.

5. Both the British High Commissioner and the Soviet Ambassador delivered messages to Prime Minister Shastri yesterday. Indian radio is reporting that "official circles" feel both messages represent an improvement in India's position.

6. Turkish Prime Minister Urguplu stated in a press conference that Ankara is sending Turkish manufactured arms to Pakistan.

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